

**METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR VACCINATING  
AGAINST FELINE IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Compositions derived from a novel viral isolate designated feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) include the whole virus, proteins, polypeptides and, polynucleotide sequences derived from the virus; and antibodies to antigenic sites on the virus. These compositions are useful in a variety of techniques for the detection of and vaccination against FIV. Detection methods disclosed include immunoassays for both the virus and antibodies to the virus, and the use of polynucleotide probes to detect the viral genome. Vaccines include both wholly and partially inactivated viruses inactivated cell lines expressing FIV antigens, and subunit vaccines. Whole, live virus is also useful as a model system for predicting the behavior of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).